

09/890025

6

Docket No.: 20010326.ORI

TILE CUTTER WITH GUIDE FENCE AND MITRE FENCE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to cutting apparatus, particularly, though not exclusively, for cutting flat plates, such as ceramic tiles, and has as its object the provision of such apparatus in a convenient form.

Description of Related Art

B²
An apparatus of this type is described and shown in our UK Patent Application No. GB2303820A. Such apparatus has a guide fence linearly slideably adjustable over a base on which a tile to be cut is received, in use. The guide fence is provided with quick engagement and release means for ease of locking the guide means in a selected adjusted position and the release therefrom for subsequent adjustment movement over the base. At each end of the guide fence such means are in the form of a pivoted clamp which snap-fittedly engages with an upper part of the body of the cutting apparatus.

Summary of the Invention

One aspect of the present invention relates to an improved form of guide fence of this type, with an alternative form of quick release and engagement means, whilst another aspect of the present invention relates to the provision, with a guide fence in use, which fence need not be in accordance with the first aspect of the invention, of adjustable means for introducing a flat plate to a cutting means of the cutting apparatus at a selected angle. In one embodiment the adjustable means on the guide fence is an adjustable protractor provided with a right angled recess to accommodate a right-edged tile, which, by virtue of the adjustable nature of the protractor, can be moved onto cutting means at a selected angle to produce a desired cut through the tile. Accordingly a cut can be made, for example from corner to corner through the tile, or at right angles from one side to the opposite side thereof, or at any angle

09/890025

7

therebetween said two examples.

~~The invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:~~

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a schematic, top perspective view of a base of a cutting apparatus, with a guide fence of the invention shown thereon, with one end of the guide fence being shown in two alternative states;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view of the opposite end of the guide fence, shown in alternative position from that of Figure 1;

B 2
Figure 3 is a schematic view similar to that of Figure 1, but showing another aspect of the invention, where adjustable protractor means are associated with a guide fence to alter the angle of cut through a tile resting on, and in a plane parallel to, the base of the cutting apparatus;

Figure 4 shows component parts of an alternative embodiment of the cutting apparatus of Figures 1 and 2, some of said component parts being shown inverted for the sake of clarity; and

Figures 5 to 7 respectively show consecutive stages in the operation of a locking lever with the cutting apparatus employing the component parts shown in Figure 4.

Description of the Preferred Embodiments

Figure 1 shows part of a cutting apparatus of a form similar to that described and shown in our above mentioned British Patent specification, although various components of the cutting apparatus are not shown. The cutting
